



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1995

No. 91

House of Representatives

The House met at 12 noon.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dwight "Ike" Reighard of New Hope Baptist Church, Fayetteville, GA, offered the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we pause to give thanks and acknowledge our Creator on this day. We are reminded on this day of June 6 of the tremendous sacrifice that occurred 51 years ago today on D-day. The price for freedom then and now is eternal vigilance. We pray that we all will be mindful and ever thankful for the men and women who served in our Armed Forces around the world.

We pray on this day for our President, Vice President, and leaders of Congress, that You would endow them with wisdom and insight beyond their human ability.

Grant us, oh Lord, Your patience, mercy and kindness, and gentleness, to touch people, see people, and love people the way You do, and in Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. EVERETT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EVERETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 483) "An Act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit medicare select policies to be offered in all States, and for other purposes", disagreed to by the House, and agrees to the conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. PACKWOOD, Mr. DOLE, and Mr. MOYNIHAN to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 104-1, the Chair, on behalf of the majority and minority leaders of the Senate and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives, announces the joint appointment of Glen D. Nager, of Washington, DC, for a term of 5 years and to serve as Chair; Virginia A. Seitz, of Washington, DC, for a term of 5 years; Jerry M. Hunter, of Missouri, for a term of 4 years; James N. Adler, of California, for a term of 4 years; and Lawrence Z. Lorber, of Washington, DC, for a term of 3 years, as members of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, announces her appointment of Richard N. Smith, of California, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, announces his appointment of Dr. William L. Richter, of Kansas, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

WELCOME TO THE REVEREND DWIGHT "IKE" REIGHARD

(Mr. GINGRICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to take a minute to recognize my pastor, Ike Reighard, who I think has combined the eternal teachings and wisdom of the Bible with the realities of modern life in such a way that I find, at least, and my wife Marian would agree, that he is one of the most inspirational and at the same time most practical preachers. It is a great honor to us to have him here.

New Hope Baptist Church is a tremendous institution with a very strong commitment to outreach and to evangelism. On my behalf, I appreciate very much the House allowing him to lead us in prayer today.

WILDERNESS LEGISLATION PRESERVES UTAH AREA FOR ALL AMERICANS

(Mr. HANSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, today is a historic time for the State of Utah. In our great State out in the West, we have been told that we can put three different areas into wilderness. One is Forest Service, one is park, and one is Bureau of Land Management.

In 1984 Ronald Reagan signed the wilderness bill for Forest Service, and it was a historic time. We preserved in the State of Utah some of the most beautiful, pristine areas that the people in the world have seen, and people come from all over the world to see this glorious area that will now be untrammelled by man, as if man was never there, as if you were the first person God put on Earth, and you can

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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see it in all its majesty. Now today we are introducing one for the Bureau of Land Management.

The State of Utah has 22 million acres—3.2 is considered fit and worthy of wilderness. This bill is 1.8, which is the most pristine of all this. It is the jewel of our national parks, of which we have five. This will be truly untrammelled by man.

We are going to start the procedure now. It will go through the subcommittee, the committee, and on the floor. I hope the people of the United States, the people of Utah, will realize what a wonderful thing they are going to have, in my opinion, as they see this area put into a wilderness designation. I am grateful for all the help we have had on this particular bill.

AMERICA'S MILITARY ADVENTURES WASTE BILLIONS AND ENDANGER OUR ARMED FORCES

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the American people are getting sick and tired of our leaders taking this Nation on military adventures around the world and wasting billions in the process.

I am talking about spending billions in Haiti, Rwanda, Somalia, and other places, and now Bosnia. There is no vital United States interest in Bosnia. There is no threat to our security there.

We should not send young American men and women to fight in foreign countries unless there is a definite and strong U.S. interest in doing so or there is a real threat to our national security.

All Americans support sending some humanitarian aid to help out when international tragedies occur.

But, we cannot continue to try to solve every world problem. We will bankrupt our own Nation if we are not careful. We certainly should not be getting into all sorts of international situations just so our Presidents can prove they are world leaders or make names for themselves in history.

We should be friends with any nation that will let us, but we need to stop trying to buy friendships.

We need to use more common sense, Mr. Speaker, and stop letting people all over this world take advantage of us and especially of our very limited national resources.

THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION, AND HOW WE CAN BEST PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE POOR

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, in the next few weeks this House will be the site of

a furious debate, as I predict, over the future of legal services. As everyone knows, the Legal Services Corporation, as the hub of a network across the country who provide, ostensibly, legal services for the poor, has come under fire over the years because of its adventurism, as some people see it, in political questions, in questions that have to do with lobbying the establishment, the political structure of our country, rather than to look at how best we can serve the poor in providing access to the court systems.

There are those who want to zero out Legal Services altogether. Others want to expand its scope of services in our country. Our committee and other committees, both in the Senate and in the House, will be looking at this very closely to keep one thing in mind: that if the original purposes of Legal Services is to be properly served itself, we have to look at how best we can provide legal services for the poor, not all the other kinds of adventurist concepts that have seeped into the legal services system in the recent past.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, as colleagues return from what I hope was a productive work period, I also hope Members got a little chance for a rest, too, because it is now time for this House to get down to the business of reining in specific Federal spending.

We have passed, as everybody knows, the landmark budget blueprint for reaching balance in our budget by the year 2002. That was a big effort. Now our committees are diving into the details, deciding where and how much to cut, to ensure that we fulfill that the problem of fiscal sanity does not go on and become fiscal insanity for our children and their children's children.

I am sure this is going to be very hard. There are no easy decisions. There are a lot of tough decisions ahead, and probably some rude awakenings, too, but I think that is why we are here. I think we have a moral obligation to get it done. The grippers and whiners who have so long defended the status quo believe they can actually scare people into opposing our agenda for balancing the budget.

Actually the status quo has brought us a deteriorating quality of life in America, and we all know it. As we prove our good faith in making government smaller, more efficient, and more accountable, the American people will support our efforts, so say the people in my district, and I think across the country as well.

URGING COLLEAGUES TO SUPPORT AMENDMENT TO ALLOW BOSNIANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I will be offering an amendment to the American Overseas Interests Act to lift the arms embargo that has tied the hands of the people of Bosnia for over 3 years in their efforts at self defense.

Last year, with bipartisan support, the House voted overwhelmingly to lift the arms embargo, yet one year later, what has it brought the Bosnians? Nothing other than more deaths. We have seen time and time again Bosnians say yes to peace, only to have the aggressors, the Bosnian Serbs, say "No, only on our terms." Time and time again we have backed down from our threats, only to allow the aggressors more time to kill and destroy a nation recognized by the international community.

Mr. Speaker, appeasement of aggression in Bosnia resonates throughout the world. We cannot continue taking a middle course in which we espouse noble principles and yet tolerate their continued violation.

At the funeral of two slain peacekeepers, France's President Chirac declared, ad I quote, "We will not accept the return of ethnic hatred and barbarism to the continent." Yet, Mr. Speaker, if we fail to assist the sovereign nation of Bosnia, then we shall have facilitated their return.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and allow the Bosnians to exercise their right to defend themselves.

REVERSAL ON BOAT PEOPLE: IRRESPONSIBLE AND DANGEROUS

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, when people's lives and safety are involved no one should take pleasure in saying, "I told you so", and I take no such pleasure. But any Member who reads, in an objective manner, this morning's Washington Times article about violence in the refugee camps should feel some remorse for this body's role in the debacle currently unfolding in Southeast Asia.

Let me briefly catalog the damage wrought so far by section 2104 of H.R. 1561, the American Overseas Interests Act and the rejection of my amendment to delete that section.

Two days of rioting by 3,000 boat people in refugee camps in Malaysia have caused at least 13 injuries. Earlier riots in Hong Kong's camps caused more than 200 injuries; of the 1,400 boat people in Thailand camps who had volunteered to return peacefully to Vietnam,